



EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

MRWF-149
ECCC

Invites You To
HOMECOMING

October 13, 2007

Special Honorees

Alumnus of the Year
Houston W. Patrick '54
Martin, Tennessee

Alumna of the Year
Ollie Fay Wood Flint '48
Philadelphia, Mississippi



Athletic Hall of Fame
Joy Eichelberger Hannah '85
Tupelo, Mississippi

Gaines Roger Massey '60
Brandon, Mississippi

Dr. Clyde V. Muse '49
Raymond, Mississippi



Saturday Schedule of Activities

- 7:00 a.m. **Homecoming 5K Run**
(North Campus)
- 8:30 – 11:30 **Bookstore Open** (Eddie M. Smith Student Union)
- 9:00 **Registration Begins**
(East Mall Patio Near Mabry Memorial Cafeteria)
- Refreshments Available**
- 9:00 – 11:00 **Memorabilia Room Open** (Burton Library)
- 10:00 **Reunion Groups Meet** (Newton Hall & Vickers Fine Arts Center)
- May Queens and Homecoming Queens
 - 1947 Warrior Football Team
 - 1953, 1954, & 1955 Warrior Basketball Teams
 - Classes of 1937, 1947, 1957, 1967, 1977, 1987, 1997
 - Classes of 1958 & 1959
- 10:30 **Awarding of 50th Anniversary Diplomas to Class of 1957**
(Auditorium, Vickers Fine Arts Center)
- 11:00 **Homecoming Honorees & Guests**
(Meet in Gordon Room, Mabry Memorial Cafeteria)
- Annual Meeting of the Warrior Club** (Newton Hall, Room 60)
- 11:30 **Luncheon Seating for Honorees** (Mabry Memorial Cafeteria)
- 12:00 noon **Luncheon for Alumni/Friends** (Mabry Memorial Cafeteria)
- Election of 2007-2008 Alumni Association Officers
 - Recognition of Homecoming Honorees
- 2:30 **Football Game: East Central vs. Copleah Lincoln Comm. College**
- Presentation of the Queen and Court at Halftime
 - Performance by the Wall O' Sound Marching Band

Hannah joins other basketball greats in ECCC Hall of Fame

MRIF-149

From press reports

After not playing basketball for two years but still having the "passion" to play on the college level, Joy Eichelberger-Hannah thought her "dream" would never be realized.

She was once a highly recruited high school player until she left the game prior to her senior season at Louisville High School. A year after her high school graduation in 1982, Eichelberger-Hannah heard about basketball tryouts being held at East Central Junior College in Decatur. She remembered wondering if she should pursue her dream of playing college basketball.

"I asked myself, what do you have to lose? The answer was clear....nothing but a missed opportunity if you don't try out," she recalled.

She said her faith took over that day on the basketball court.

"I had an extremely high level of fear before the tryouts because I had not picked up a basketball in two years...but God calmed my nerves and the rest, as they say, is history."

Eichelberger-Hannah was awarded a scholarship by then ECJC Warriorette head coach Lucille Wood and became one of East Central's most outstanding basketball players, earning Kodak All-American, second team NJCAA All-American, All-Region 23 and first team All-State honors among her accolades.

In recognition of her success on the hardwood, Eichelberger-Hannah will be inducted into the College's Athletic Hall of Fame during Homecoming activities on Saturday, October 13 on the Decatur campus.

Regarding the prestigious honor, the inductee replied: "I feel a great sense of achievement and much gratefulness. The feeling is overwhelming with happiness."

Her accomplishments on the

hardwood were even more remarkable, given the fact that she actually "hated basketball as a seventh grader" and quit the team.

But, she was "too tall" (at 5' 7 1/2") to quit as she was told and resumed her career in the eighth grade.

She played basketball from the ninth through eleventh grades for head coach Allen Goodin, "who taught me the fundamentals of basketball in all areas."

She helped lead the freshman team to a 9-3 mark, and honors began pouring in during her sophomore campaign when she received the best offensive player award. She earned All Conference honors her junior year in addition to receiving the most valuable player and best free-throw shooter awards.

She did not play basketball her senior year but instead concentrated on track, receiving several first place honors as a member of the mile relay team (now known as the 4x400), long jump and softball throw. She made the All-State track team on two occasions.

She enrolled at East Central in 1983, and the 5-9, guard/forward quickly realized that because she was about a year older than half the team, she needed to set an example for the other players.

She definitely set the example on the playing court, as evidenced by her long list of honors, which also included her selection as team captain, best offensive player and MACJC All-Star.

She was also a popular student and was involved in various campus activities. She was chosen homecoming queen in 1984, was a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes on the local and national levels and was named to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges. She chuckled when asked about the homecoming queen elec-

tion.

"Honestly," she said, "I entered the homecoming queen election without a thought of winning. I wanted to see if people would vote for me. After all the votes were tallied, I was told that the race was not even close. The experience of being voted homecoming queen was extraordinary. I enjoyed each and every moment of the festivities surrounding homecoming in 1984."

Regarding other highlights of her time at EC, she said the "biggest" highlight in basketball was when she scored 41 points against Clarke College to surpass Esther Thomas as the all-time leading scorer at East Central.

Eichelberger-Hannah sits atop the scoring list with 1292 points in 54 games, a 23.9 average. She finished second in the nation in scoring her freshman season and was ranked fourth her sophomore year.

She gave much of the credit for her success to Coach Wood, who nominated her former player for the award.

"Coach Wood was a tough coach but a good coach," she stated. "She cared about her players and wanted all of us to succeed. She would go beyond the call of her duties as a coach in order to make sure that her players were taken care of in any way needed. I owe much gratitude to Coach Wood because she gave me a second chance in pursuing my basketball career."

Wood, who is beginning her 54th year of service in the state's community and junior college system and 52nd year at East Central, referred to the former basketball standout "as one of the best players I ever coached."

"Joy could do it all....inside shooting, outside shooting... but speed was the key to her success," Wood stated. "She was also a good student and I

am happy that she gives East Central credit for much of her success."

Eichelberger-Hannah also mentioned as a highlight the experience of playing in two junior college All-Star games.

"Playing with so many great players was magnificent...and traveling to the NJCAA All-Star Game in Kansas was quite a thrill...because it was my first ride in an airplane!" she stated.

Eichelberger-Hannah was obviously highly recruited following her East Central career.

She had planned on attending the University for Women in Columbus but on the day she was supposed to mail her scholarship to the "W," she received invitations to visit the University of Mississippi and Mississippi State University campuses. She decided on Ole Miss, she said, mainly because of the Lady Rebels' head coach, Van Chancellor, who is also an ECCC alumnus.

"Coach Chancellor made things sound extremely interesting at Ole Miss," she stated. "He offered me a full scholarship to play basketball and I gladly accepted."

Eichelberger-Hannah helped lead the Lady Rebels to the Sweet Sixteen of the NCAA Tournament in 1985-86 and the Elite Eight in 1986-87. She was a starter her senior year and was named most improved player the same season. She graduated from Ole Miss in 1987 with a bachelor's degree in business administration.

She thought about playing basketball beyond Ole Miss but the only professional league in 1987 was on foreign soil, and she did not want to leave her son, Deandre', who was four years old at the time.

Eichelberger-Hannah resides in Tupelo where she serves as a Medicaid Specialist for the Division of Medicaid for the State of Mississippi.

She has two children, Dean-



Hannah

dre' K. Eiland and Charde' Joydan Hannah. Neither inherited her passion for basketball but both excel in other sports. Deandre' is a former NFL football player now playing with the Amsterdam Admirals of the NFL Europe League.

He also excelled in track and held the nation's 110 hurdle record during his senior year in high school. He also received honors during his football career at the University of South Carolina. Charde', a sixth grader, participates in soccer and gymnastics. She is already receiving scholarship offers in soccer.

Winston County Journal 9-26-07

Winston County Youth Football play tough

From press reports

Winston County Youth Football went on the road Saturday, September 22, 2007 to play at East Oktibbeha Football Field in Starkville, MS. All of our teams played hard considering the rainy weather.

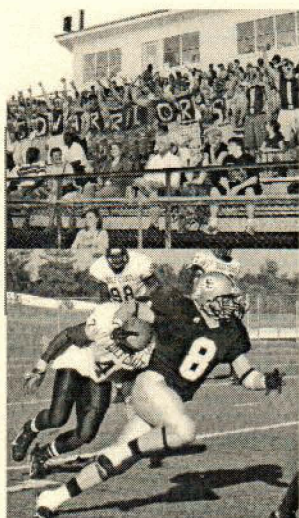
The Lil' Chiefs played the Lil' Lions of Ackerman. Our young men played hard, but suffered a defeat. The Louisville Saints played the Oktibbeha Patriots. They also played very hard, but suffered a defeat. The Big Chiefs of Winston County played the Big Choctaw Lions of Ackerman. The young men played hard and brought home a win defeating the big Lions 38-8.

The teams will travel to Noxubee County on Saturday, September 29, 2007. The Louisville Saints will have the weekend off. The Lil' Chiefs will play the Lil Bronco's of Noxubee County also at 2:30 p.m. Good Luck to both teams.

East Central Community College **ECCC**
Alumni Luncheon • October 13, 2007

Homecoming

'GROWING - CARING - SHARING'



Presiding..... Florence Harkins Henley '81
President, ECCC Alumni Association

Invocation..... Mickey Burdette
Class of 1957

Welcome and Introductions..... Dr. Phil A. Sutphin
President

Nominating Committee Report Ann Hunter Burkes '63
and Election of Alumni Officers Nominating Committee Chairperson

Recognition of Special Alumni Groups..... Dr. Lavinia Sparkman
Vice President for Instruction and Homecoming Steering Committee Chair

*Classes Ending In "7" • May Queens & Homecoming Queens
Classes of 1957-58-59 • 1947 Warrior Football Team
1953, 1954 & 1955 Warrior Basketball Teams • Warrior Club*

Presentation of Athletic Hall of Fame Awards..... Chris Harris '76
ECCC Warrior Club Member & Work-Based Learning Coordinator

Presentation of Alumna of the Year Award..... Dr. Phil A. Sutphin

Presentation of Alumnus of the Year Award..... Dr. Phil A. Sutphin

Adjourn



Record of Alumni Award Recipients

Alumni of the Year

1964-B.O. Smith, Louisville
 1965-Lucille Wood, Decatur
 1966-Henry D. Horton, Louisville
 1967-Crowley Alford, Carthage
 1968-W.H. Johnson, Jr., Decatur
 1969-Arthur Winstead, Philadelphia
 1970-Leon Sims, Philadelphia
 1971-Charles Carter-Jackson
 1972-Dr. William L. Weems, Jackson
 1973-Arno Vincent, Meridian
 1974-Elizabeth K. Darby, Philadelphia
 1975-W.C. Spence, Walnut Grove
 1976-John Risher, Philadelphia
 1977-Jessie M. Everett, Decatur
 1978-Class of 1928, First Class
 1979-Glen D. Walker, Union
 1980-Russell Walton, Union
 1981-Dwight Mulholland, Collinsville
 1982-Denver Brackeen, Union
 1983-Frank Hunter, Brookhaven
 1984-Herman Alford, Philadelphia
 1985-Carl B. Cooper, Decatur
 Dr. Beverly Oliphant, Washington, D.C.
 1986-Kenneth Madison, Philadelphia
 Dr. Pam Kirk, Louisville
 1987-Dr. Brad Tucker, Decatur
 Dr. Addie R. Lee, Birmingham, AL
 1988-Henry B. Hudspeth, Louisville
 Dr. Verbie Prevost, Hixon, TN
 1989-Dr. Eddie M. Smith, Decatur
 Dr. Walterine Herrington Bell, Jackson
 1990-Larry Hogue, Flowood
 Jo McMullan Taylor, Forest
 1991-Dr. Clyde Muse, Raymond
 Lois Blount Cooper, Decatur
 1992-Earl Marshall, Clinton
 June Bailey, Biloxi
 1993-Melvin Tingle, Decatur
 Patsy Dunigan Clark, Louisville
 1994-Paul V. Breazeale, Jackson
 Jane Todd Gurry, Raleigh, NC
 1995-Dr. John Gipson, Newton
 Wanda Comans Sharp, Sebastopol
 1996-Ray Britt, Walnut Grove
 Brenda Whatley Kirby, Forest
 1997-Dick Livingston, Pulaski
 Carol Farish Vickers, Decatur
 1998-T.H. "Tam" Etheridge, Jackson
 Nell Allen Rogers, Philadelphia
 1999-Dr. Shelby L. Harris, Decatur
 Illene Richie Gordon, Union

2000-S. LeBrun Hutchison, Littleton, CO
 Jeanette Beavers Thrash, Decatur
 2001-Dr. Joe Todd, Cincinnati, Ohio
 Betty Lewis Gomillion, Walnut Grove
 2002-Harvey Trapp, Newton
 Imogene Johnson Borganelli, Greenville
 2003-Dr. Milton Matthews, Pearl
 Frances Harris Smith, Decatur
 2004-Dr. John G. Hollingsworth, Commerce, GA
 Ann Hunter Burkes, Decatur
 2005-Bill Lovett, Forest
 Maxie Dodson Phillips, University Park, MD
 2006-Judge Marcus Gordon, Union
 Dr. Sandra Rivers Weeks, Commerce, Texas
 2007-Houston Patrick, Martin, TN
 Ollie Fay Wood Woodward Flint, Philadelphia

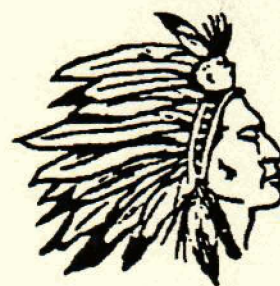
Athletic Hall of Fame

1985-Denver Brackeen, Union
 1986-Lucille Wood, Louisville
 1987-Billy Wayne Baucum, Decatur
 1988-Howard Jean Sessums, Harpersville
 1989-Lamar Blount, Decatur
 Arno Vincent, Meridian
 Earl Marshall, Clinton
 1990-Jeff Loper, Decatur
 Richard Harris, Hickory
 Sherrell Ray Marshall, Jackson
 1991-Larry Henderson, Daphne, AL
 Diana Lyons Jones, Bay Springs
 Wayne Tullos, Belle Glade, FL
 1992-Evelyn Bender, Newton
 Joe Clark, Decatur
 Bert Thompson, Clinton
 1993-Esther Thomas Coleman, Louisville
 Barbara Jo Davidson Russell, Decatur
 Louis Watwood, Arlington, VA
 1994-Charlene Bates Jones, Forest
 Charlie Hope, Sharpsburg, GA
 Malcolm "Puddin'" Jones, Decatur
 1995-Clayton Blount, Decatur
 Nan Houston Keenan, Rose Hill
 James T. "Jim" Wood, Louisville
 1996-M.E. "Boe" Davis, Cary, NC
 Malcolm Phillips, Newton
 John W. Golden, Stone Mountain, GA
 Julie Latham, Morton

1997-Tommye Williamson Alfonso, Gulfport
 Lester Baucum, Wiggins
 James L. "Creeper" Nelson, Newton
 1998-Van Chancellor, Houston, Texas
 Deborah Norwood Duncan, Philadelphia
 Howard Sessums, Clinton
 1999-Daisy Kate Williams Chaney, Union
 Sam Rutigliano, Forest, VA
 Charles E. Ward, Pace, FL
 2000-Billy Ray Dill, Escatawpa
 Sue Gunter, Baton Rouge, LA
 Jimmy Rea, Madison
 2001-Willie "Tenny" Coats, Decatur
 Sammy Pace, Decatur
 Charlie Payne, Florence
 2002-Freddie J. Bagley, Forest
 James E. "Jim" Nabers, Louisville
 Robert Thomas, Philadelphia
 2003-Roy Baker, Clinton
 Imogene Johnson Borganelli, Greenville
 Rex Keeton, Taylorsville
 Mark Killens, Newton
 2004-Marcus Mann, Forest
 Ken Pouncey, Decatur
 2005-Dr. Bob Tom Johnson, Forest
 Lucy Young-Vicksburg
 2006-Melvin Carpenter, Ocala, Florida
 Wilmer James, Brandon
 2007-Joy Eichelberger Hannah, Tupelo
 Gaines Massey, Brandon
 Dr. Clyde Muse, Raymond

Lifetime Achievement Awards

1991-Dr. Austin P. Boggan, Decatur
 1994-Homer Hunter, Decatur
 Ovid Vickers, Decatur
 1996-W.H. Johnson, Jr., Decatur
 J.W. Thrash, Decatur
 2001-James E. Land, Union



10-17-07

MRVF-149



ECCC homecoming honorees

Special recognition was given to the above East Central Community College alumni who received honors at the annual Alumni Awards luncheon held during homecoming activities Saturday, Oct. 13 on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Ollie Fay Wood Woodward Flint of Philadelphia, Alumna of the Year; and Houston W. Patrick of Martin, Tenn., Alumnus of the Year. Standing from left are Gaines Massey of Brandon, Joy Eichelberger Hannah of Tupelo and Dr. Clyde Muse of Raymond, who were inducted into the College's Athletic Hall of Fame. Patrick, Massey and Dr. Muse are Scott County natives and Hannah is a former resident of Louisville. (EC Photo)

Nashoba Democrat 10-17-07

MRJF-149
ECCC

East Central Community College

Homecoming Schedule of Events

Saturday, October 13, 2007

- 7:00 a.m. **Homecoming 5K Run and 1 Mile Walk – North Campus**
- Registration 7:00 a.m.
 - Run Starts 7:30 a.m.
- 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **Bookstore Open, Eddie M. Smith Student Union**
- 9:00 a.m. **Homecoming Registration Begins**
East Mall Patio near Mabry Memorial Cafeteria
- Refreshments Available on the Mall**
- 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Memorabilia Room Open, Burton Library**
- 10:00 a.m. **Reunion Groups Meet**
- May Queens and Homecoming Queens, Room 60, Newton Hall
 - 1947 Football Team, Room 92, Newton Hall
 - 1953, 1954, and 1955 Men's Basketball Teams, Room 90, Newton Hall
 - Class of 1937, First Floor, Huff Auditorium
 - Class of 1947, Room 92, Newton Hall
 - Class of 1957, Auditorium, Vickers Fine Arts Center
 - Class of 1967, Room 534, Vickers Fine Arts Center
 - Class of 1977, Room 506, Vickers Fine Arts Center
 - Class of 1987, Room 507, Vickers Fine Arts Center
 - Class of 1997, Room 538, Vickers Fine Arts Center
 - Classes of 1958 & 1959, Auditorium, Vickers Fine Arts Center
- 10:30 a.m. **Awarding of 50th Anniversary Diplomas to Class of 1957,**
Auditorium, Vickers Fine Arts Center
- 11:00 a.m. **Homecoming Honorees' Meeting, Gordon Room, Mabry Memorial**
Cafeteria
- Warrior Club Annual Meeting – All former athletes & current**
supporters of athletics at EC, Room 60, Newton Hall
- 12:00 noon **Alumni Luncheon, Mabry Memorial Cafeteria**
- 2:30 p.m. **Football Game – ECCC vs. Co-Lin**
- Halftime Presentation of Queen and Court**
- Performance by the Wall O' Sound Marching Band**

'Growing. Caring. Sharing.



HOMECOMING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13



Alumna of the Year
Ollie Fay Wood
Woodward Flint
Philadelphia



Alumnus of the Year
Houston Patrick
Martin, TN



Athletic Hall of Fame
Joy Eichelberger Hannah
Tupelo



Athletic Hall of Fame
Gaines M. Brandt



Members of the 2007 East Central Community College Homecoming Court include (seated, from left) maid of honor Anna Rouse of Union and queen Dru Anderson of Decatur; and (standing, from left) sophomore maids Jordan Patterson of Aberdeen, Shonda Marshall of Carthage and Patience Haynes of Noxapater; and freshman maids Krystal Knight of Jackson, Kendra Sanders of Walnut Grove, Joy Hayes of Decatur and Briana Edison of Collins. The Queen and her Court will be presented Saturday, October 13, during halftime of the ECCC vs. Copiah-Lincoln Community College football game. Kickoff is set for 2:30 p.m. in Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus.

7 a.m.
8:30 to 11:30 a.m.
9 a.m.
9 to 11 a.m.
10 a.m.

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10:30 a.m.
11 a.m.

12 Noon
2:30 p.m.

East Central Community College

P.O. Box 129 • Decatur, MS 39327 • www.eccc.edu • 1-877-GO-2-ECCC

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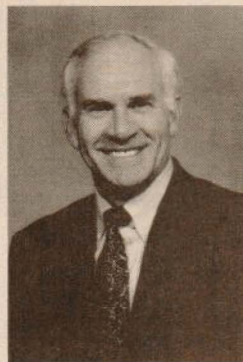
COMING 2007

DAY, OCTOBER 13

MRUF-149
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Athletic Hall of Fame
Joy Eichelberger Hannah
Tupelo



Athletic Hall of Fame
Gaines Massey
Brandon



Athletic Hall of Fame
Dr. Clyde Muse
Raymond

Schedule of Events

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 7 a.m. | Registration for 5K Run/1 Mile Walk (Race Starts at 7:30 a.m.) |
| 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. | Bookstore Open, Smith Student Union |
| 9 a.m. | Homecoming Registration, East Mall Area Near Mabry Cafeteria |
| 9 to 11 a.m. | Memorabilia Room Open, Burton Library |
| 10 a.m. | Reunion Groups Meet |
| | May Queens and Homecoming Queens, Room 60, Newton Hall |
| | 1947 Football Team, Room 92, Newton Hall |
| | 1953, 1954 & 1955 Men's Basketball Teams, Room 90, Newton Hall |
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| 11 a.m. | Homecoming Honorees' Meeting, Gordon Room, Mabry Cafeteria |
| | Warrior Club Annual Meeting, Room 60, Newton Hall |
| 12 Noon | Alumni Luncheon, Mabry Cafeteria |
| 2:30 p.m. | Football Game, ECCC vs. Co-Lin |
| | Halftime Presentation of Queen and Court |
| | Performance by the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band |

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1-877-GO-2-ECCC

ART EXHIBIT
Thursday, October 11
Featuring ECCC Alumna Victoria Daniels
Vickers Fine Arts Center • 7 to 9 p.m.
Free Admission and Refreshments



Neshoba Democrat 10-10-07

10-10-07

MRVF-149

ECCC alumna of the year known for helping others

Whether it's helping family members and co-workers, participating in various church-related activities, helping provide housing for the homeless or serving as a "counselor" to those in need, Ollie Fay Wood Woodward Flint of Philadelphia assumes whatever role is needed.

Because of the compassion she has shown to others throughout her life and her distinguished career, Flint has been selected East Central Community College's "Alumna of the Year" for 2007. She will be recognized along with other honorees during homecoming activities scheduled Saturday on the Decatur campus.

When told about the prestigious honor, Flint responded, "I was speechless...I really was ... I felt so humbled and flabbergasted!"

Now retired, Flint divides her time between her homes in Philadelphia and Shalimar, Fla., and enjoys traveling with various senior groups. She also spends time helping to take care for the needs of her mother, Gussie Wood Flint, who is nearing 100 and resides in a nursing home in Philadelphia.

Flint enjoyed a lengthy career, spent mostly in federal civilian service.

But life was not easy for the Neshoba County native, especially during her early years.

Flint's father, Ollie M. Wood, died at age 40 in 1942. He was serving as a member of the ECJC Board of

Trustees at the time of his death. Flint, who was 12 at the time, assumed the responsibility of helping her mother rear her younger brothers and sisters whose ages ranged from 10 months to 10 years. The family survived "by hard work" on a mortgaged farm in Neshoba County.

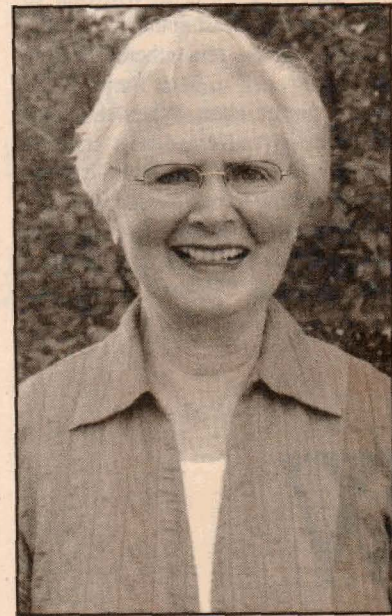
"My mother sent me to college by working a 40-plus hour workweek in the Wells-Lamont Glove Factory in Philadelphia, earning 40 cents an hour," Flint said. "She would sell a cow if additional funds were needed for tuition and books. The family also received \$40 a month from the Aid to Dependent Child Welfare Fund."

Flint said her first experience living with indoor plumbing - including showers - was when she moved into Jackson Hall on the EC campus in 1947. She had just graduated as valedictorian from Arlington Vocational High School, completing high school coursework in three years.

At EC, she worked in the dining hall as a "self-help" student, earning \$18 a month, which covered room and board. Mrs. Annie Breazeale Blount was the dietician and Mrs. Grace Gardner was dean of women.

Many World War II veterans also attended EC during that time. Grits were often served at breakfast and at supper. Flint recalled one former soldier quipping that he knew why grits were not served in the Army. "They were all at Decatur."

Flint participated in the Baptist



Ollie Fay Wood Woodward Flint

Student Union and Future Business Leaders of America club. She was a member of the Tom-Tom staff and served as Jackson Hall House President the summer of 1948.

Flint said football and basketball games, physical education classes, Maypole dances, May Day and Freshman Day were also a part of campus life.

"The night before Freshman Day we washed our hair but did not comb it. The next day, we had to wear our

See **FLINT**, page 12A

Neshoba Democrat 10-10-07



Left to Right:

Joy Eichelberger-Hannah / 2007

EC Athletic Hall of Fame

Ms. Lucille Wood, Former EC

Women's Basketball Coach;

Current EC Instructor and

Social Science Dept. Chair

11/27/2007

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(8) 10/21/2007

Joy Eichelberger-Hannah's speech given at the ECCC
Homecoming Luncheon on October 13, 2007.

Good Afternoon to everyone.

Today my heart is filled with great Joy. Thank you, East Central Junior/Community College so very much for this opportunity of being inducted into East Central's Athletic Hall of Fame. I have always lived by Philippians 4:13(I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me). First, I would like to thank my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ for my being and for continuing to bless me each and everyday.

A special Thanks goes to my parents, Mrs. Grace Eichelberger-Ball and my late father, Calvin Eichelberger. Words can never express my gratitude for your undivided understanding and love. You had to make so many scarifies in order for me to attend college and for that I say thank you. You took care of your children in spite of all the obstacles you were faced with. May God continue to strengthen your faith.

I would like to thank my family who is here with me today. Your present today alone show your love for me. Your support over the years has meant so much to me. I thank you for your encouragement, understand and everything that you have done for me. Special recognition to my son, Deandre' and daughter, Charde'. I hope I have been a great mother because I have always had your best interest at heart. Your presence here today means more to me than you will ever know. May God forever bless you.

I would like to thank all my friends who have come to share this special day with me. You could have chosen to be somewhere else but your support proves to me that I have great taste in picking true friends. Thank you so much for tolerating me over the years. Many times you have to lend a listening ear or shoulder to cry on whenever things weren't going great for me and for that I say thank you. I would not have made it without you, my friends.

I would like to extend a special thank you to Coach Wood for the nomination first and then for seeing something good in me 24 years ago. Coach Wood, you are a caring person and was a great coach. Yes, there were

times that I did not want to practice or play but you always somehow knew the right things to say to make times better. I owe so much to you for your patience with me. Again, I owe so much to you for your patience with me. I know that were times when you want to break my neck but I glad you didn't. Thank you for your generosity and devotion to your players in making sure that we were taken care of. You would always go beyond the call of your duties as a coach for each one of your players. May God Bless you and again Thank You for everything you have done for me.

Thanks to all my teammates at East Central for without you this would not have been possible. We were a family. I thank you for allowing me to be a leader at time. I thank you for allowing me to shoot sometimes more than I should have. Thanks for allowing me to shine and never complaining that I was getting more glory. This honor is only because I had caring and loving teammates. Words can never express my gratitude for your unconditional free spirited attitude during my two years at East Central.

A special Thanks to the East Central Staff in all areas. Especially to my professors who were understanding at all times. I owe much of my success to your wiliness to help me make it through the though times. I extend a special thank you to several professors for going the extra mile on my behalf in order for me to have what I needed to be successful. May God Bless You.

This honor is very special to me in a big way. You see God's grace and Coach Wood gave me a second chance in life to play basketball. After not playing basketball for two years, one might have said that my career was over. If I have paid more attention to statistics, then I would have realized that the odds were against me. Well guess what. I forgot to look at statistics but I prayed to God and believed in his word that told me in I John 1:8-9 that," If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. I assure you today that God's word is truth and I am living proof. After High School, I gave birth to my son, Deandre' and I asked God to forgive me and to make a way for me to attend college and care for my child. **As you can see the rest is history.** I leave you with this poem written by Maya Angelou which sums up my journey.

*When I say... "I am a Christian,
I'm not shouting "I'm clean livin."
I'm whispering "I was lost,
Now I'm found and forgiven."*

*When I say... "I am a Christian"
I don't speak of this with pride.
I'm confessing that I stumble
and need Christ to be my guide.*

*When I say..."I am a Christian"
I'm not trying to be strong.
I'm professing that I'm weak
And need His strength to carry on.*

*When I say, "I am a Christian"
I'm not claiming to be perfect,
My flaws are far too visible
But, God believes I am worth it.*

*When I say... "I am a Christian"
I still feel the sting of pain
I have my share of heartaches
So I call upon His name.*

*When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not holier than thou,
I'm just a simple sinner
Who received God's good grace, somehow!*

May God Bless Each of You,
Thank You, Joy Eichelberger-Hannah.